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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### Third Army meets the challenge of Operation Nickel II Third Army – PAO

**CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait** – Third Army completed Operation Nickel II, the largest logistical operation since World War II.

“The Third Army team meets mission by anticipating potential challenges and then adapting and executing prepared plans to overcome obstacles with the most cost effective means,” said Lt. Gen. William G. Webster, Third Army commander. “Our actions ensured the required equipment for the Afghanistan build up of our forces was fixed and ready for issue to the units on the ground.”

While conducting simultaneous logistical operations for the Responsible Drawdown in Iraq and the Build Up in Afghanistan, Third Army, in coordination with many organizations, proved its capability to meet any goal set before it.

As a part of this effort, Third Army redeployed 95,000 troops, 44,000 containers and 40,000 vehicles from Iraq, a portion of which were used in support of the Build Up in Afghanistan. Specifically, Third Army met the goal of delivering over 5,100 vehicles and thousands of pieces of equipment. This equipment was in place ready to use by the additional 30,000 troops who deployed to Afghanistan, maximizing boots on the ground time.

Third Army and its partners in the sustain mission accomplished the drawdown and build up mission while maintaining and sustaining the current forces.

Third Army did this while employing efficient, responsible and transparent cost-cutting measures. It transported equipment worth \$1.12 billion from Iraq to Afghanistan, equipment that otherwise would have been purchased for operations in Afghanistan. This redistribution plan demonstrated Third Army’s commitment to being a good steward of the American taxpayer’s funds.

As Third Army looks ahead, it will continue to improve its posture to support the warfighter in Afghanistan while simultaneously supporting U.S. forces conducting Operation New Dawn.

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Note: For further information please contact the press office at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait at 011 965 9988 1372; or (DSN) 318-430-6331; or at Ft. McPherson, Ga at (404) 464-3832; or send an email to Maj. Dan Byer, Media Operations Officer, at [Daniel.byer@us.army.mil](mailto:Daniel.byer@us.army.mil).